



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re patent application of:

Delorme, *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/555,575

Filed: June 1, 2000

For: **Novel Compounds Useful in Pain Management**

Art Unit: 1626

Examiner: A. D'Souza

Atty. Dkt.: 81823/268623

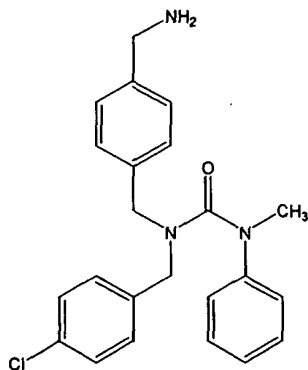
Response to Restriction Requirement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2001, in which the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on the above-captioned application, Applicants hereby elect the inventions of restriction group I. According to the Office Action this group includes claims 1-10, 14 and 16-18 and is directed to chemical compounds. However, it does not appear that the Examiner took into account the Preliminary Amendment filed by Applicants on January 9, 2001 (copy enclosed). In this, Applicants cancelled, *inter alia*, claims 1, 2, 6-10 and 17. New claims 23 and 24 were introduced that replaced claims 1 and 2 respectively. In light of the Preliminary Amendment, it appears to Applicants that restriction group I should probably include claims: 23, 24, 3-5, 14, 16 and 18 and it is these claims that are elected.

As a species, Applicants elect the following compound:



This compound is shown in the specification of the application as compound 25 (see Example 11, page 37). The claims that encompass the compound are 23, 4, 5, 16 and 18.

This election is made without traverse.

Applicants have provided the fee for a one month extension of time herewith. It is not believed that any additional fees are required for the filing of the present document. Nevertheless, any additional fees may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975. If the Examiner believes that a phone call may help to expedite this matter, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (703) 905-2173.

Respectfully submitted,

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